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several works one would expect to find are lacking. No mention is made of Mommsen's *Provinces* or Domaszewski's *Geschichte der röm. Kaiser*. Bouché-Leclercq, *Histoire des Seleucides*, Rostowzew, *Studien zur Geschichte der röm. Kolonates*, and the article in *AJA*, XVI, 11 ff., by Buckler and Robinson on "Greek Inscriptions from Sardis" would have furnished good sources for a better treatment of the system of landholding than is given.

The book has a surprisingly large amount of material, is written in a pleasing style, and will be read by classical students with both pleasure and profit.

J. F. FERGUSON

BRYN MAWR

The Place-Names of England and Wales. By JAMES B. JOHNSTON, M.A. London: John Murray, 1915. Pp. 532. Octavo.

This work, a dictionary of English and Welsh place-names, giving to each the oldest known spellings and the probable derivation, is by the author of *The Place-Names of Scotland* (2d ed., 1903). It contains the names of all towns and villages mentioned in the *Postal Guide* (following its standard orthography), as also those of all mountains, rivers, and islands—in all some six thousand names.

The author, amid the duties of a provincial Scotch curacy, has labored twenty years on this work. He has had access to the libraries of Edinburgh and Glasgow for original sources—Old English charters and chronicles, the Domesday Book, and especially the recent issues of the *Close and Patent Rolls*, practically untouched heretofore. He gives (p. 528) a short bibliography of recent works used in the compilation, especially the work on the place-names of various English counties. The book, however, is hampered by the lack of a tabulated bibliography of original sources, which one must seek in W. G. Searle's *Onomasticon Anglo-Saxonicum*, 1897. Thus the work of Glidas of the sixth century, which speaks of twenty-eight cities of the Britons, is not mentioned, while that of Nennius, *Historia Britorum*, ca. 810 A.D., purporting to be a list of these cities, is mentioned often by the author, but the title is nowhere given. The author found the great English *Gazeteers* (e.g., *Cassell's* and *Brabner's*, each in 6 vols.) of little use, as also the two articles in the last edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, "Place-Names of England," by A. Mawer, IX, 417-18; "Place-Names of Wales," by H. M. Vaughan, XXVIII, 260. The etymologies in the *Oxford Dictionary* have been largely used. A few names are not precisely located, a difficulty for scholars outside of England; e.g., Cotteswold Hills (p. 216), Gateshead (p. 272), Hawxley-on-Coquet (p. 295).

The work makes no pretensions to completeness, but is merely a beginning in a field in which no other conspectus has as yet appeared. The study of English place-names is still young. Apart from notes to *Anecdota Oxoniensia*, the first work of permanent value in this field is the *Place-Names of Cambs*, by W. W. Skeat, which appeared in 1901. The case with Wales is still worse; the

only book dealing with the whole subject is the very unscientific *Place-Names of Wales*, by T. Morgan (2d ed., 1912). The list in the *Britannica* article mentioned is characterized (p. 67) as that of a "tyro." The author is certainly wrong in stating (p. 69) that in Wales "no Roman inscriptions have yet been found," as also (p. 70) that in the *Antonine Itinerary* "we can identify only three names of today, and there is doubt even among these." He says (p. 4) that this Antonine road-book—which is the best account of Keltic names, containing twenty-two town- and eleven river-names—was put into final shape in 380 A.D., a statement which, though correct, is misleading, as the compilation belongs to the beginning of the third century.

The Introduction contains nine short chapters (pp. 1-83) explanatory of the dictionary, which forms the bulk of the work (pp. 87-532). In the second chapter, on "Roman and Latin Names," which is especially interesting to classical students, the author points out (p. 5), what is not generally apprehended, that the name Chester, found alone or in combination, is not the certain sign of Roman origin or even proof of the existence of a former *castra* on the site. Though numerous, none of these *caster* names goes back as a name to Roman days. Some, like *Alia Castra* for Alcester, are spurious inventions; Chester itself as a name is late; few are earlier than the beginning of the Old English chronicles; thus Gloucester is first found in a grant of 681 as *Gleaweceasdre* and Worcester is nearly as early. Consequently, *caster*, OE *ceaster*, is a Saxon rather than a Roman appellation. Similarly, few names of today embody the Latin *colonia*, e.g., Lincoln, Colchester. Very possibly the latter merely means "Camp on the Colne," and this river-name is Keltic, so that Colchester appears to be of Keltic and Saxon and not of Roman manufacture. There are almost no real Latin names in England.

In the chapter on the "Keltic Element," the most difficult problem in the names of England and Wales, the author unscientifically differentiates, on the basis of dolichocephalic skulls which prove the existence of a pre-Keltic race, between Keltic place-names (he lists some four hundred on pp. 18 ff.) and pre-Keltic ones (he lists twenty as possible on p. 22). He believes these pre-Aryan names are confined chiefly or altogether to rivers, e.g., Biddle, Bollin, Croco, etc. There is no linguistic proof, however, that these names are not Keltic. On p. 7 he says the Aryan Kelts came to England "not a great many centuries before Julius Caesar"—a statement which needs revision in the light of recent investigations into the age of Indo-European speech groups in Europe. He is probably right in saying (pp. 7-9) that the fifty *Ogam* inscriptions found in Wales, West Devon, and Cornwall, date from late in the Roman occupation and are the work of the early Goidels (Gaels) who came over from South Ireland to Pembroke, while of the earliest Goidels in England we know next to nothing. He suggests that the Brythons, who followed the Goidels into Britain, came from the tribes of the Belgae, since a comparison of neolithic skulls of England and Belgium shows great similarities. He points out that too much stress has been laid on the number of English Kelt names (especially

of rivers), but goes to the other extreme in saying (p. 8) that over a large area of England there "are next to no Keltic names at all." The derivation of *Ox*-in Oxford (p. 11) and of the *Isis* (the Latin name of the Thames above Oxford) from the Keltic root *uisc*, "water" or "river" (spelled variously now as *axe*, *exe*, *esk*, *usk*) is interesting. However, his equation of Gateshead (on-Tyne, p. 272) with Gabrosentum, deriving the latter from Keltic *gabar* "goat," is probably wrong. Gabrosentum was probably on the west and not on the east coast of Britain, and doubtless stood at the end of an old Roman road, so that the name is not Keltic but Saxon (from OE *zeat* "gate," and not from *zat* "goat").

In the chapter on "Wales, Monmouth and Cornwall," the author is right in stating that few Roman *castra* names survive. His suggestion (pp. 67-68, 185) that Cardiff is derived from Welsh *caer* or *car*, "fort," and Didius, the Roman general, who, in 50 A.D., fought against the British tribe of the Silures of that region, is a good solution of the much disputed etymology of that name. If it is correct Cardiff is one of the earliest Roman stations in Britain.

The book, with all the shortcomings inevitable in a pioneer work in such an enormous and complicated field, is deserving of much commendation. It not only arouses the widespread and natural curiosity of every reader interested in the origin of English names, but it gives many sidelights on the complex history of Britain and explains many of the racial idiosyncracies of the various peoples which have inhabited it.

WALTER WOODBURN HYDE

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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